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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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Bennett J. Berson, Reg. No. 37,094

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

TO: Commissioner for Patents
Attention: Examiner: Janet Kerr
Washington DC 20231
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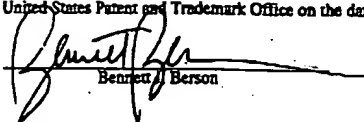
Inventors: Dove/Shedlovsky
Serial No.: 09/114,973
Filing Date: 07/14/98
For: Method for Identifying Mutants and Molecules
Group Art Unit: 1655
Examiner: Janet Kerr

IN CASE OF A PROBLEM, CALL (608) 251-5000

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Benjamin J. Berson

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: William F. Dove
Alexandra Shedlovsky

Date: June 30, 2000

Serial No.: 09/114,973

Group Art Unit: 1655

Filed: 07/14/98

Examiner: Janet Kerr

Title: METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING
MUTANTS AND MOLECULES

Docket No.: 960296.95491

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE

Commissioner For Patents
Washington DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In a telephone interview on June 29, 2000, the undersigned and the Examiner assigned to the above-noted application discussed various aspects of the claim language.

In particular, the Examiner and the undersigned discussed the ability of the skilled artisan to practice the invention as claimed, especially in view of the art-specific terms in the claims.

In particular, the Examiner asked about the term "congenic dominant allele" and indicated an unfamiliarity with the term. While it may be more appropriate to refer to an index inbred congenic strain carrying a dominant allele, the applicants believe that the term is well understood by those skilled in the art. In particular, the meaning of a congenic strain is well understood in the art. For example, the rules for nomenclature of inbred strains promulgated by the International Committee on Standardized Genetic Nomenclature for Mice defines a congenic strain in Rule 3.3(2) to be a strain produced by repeated back-crosses to an inbred strain. A strain is regarded as congenic when a minimum of ten back-cross generations to the background strain have been made counting the first hybrid or F1 generation as generation 1. Congenic mice usually differ from inbred mice in a short chromosomal segment rather than a single gene. In the disclosed embodiment of the invention, that chromosomal segment includes the min allele at the APC locus. These rules are available in the mouse genome informatics section of the Jackson Laboratory website at www.jax.org.

The Examiner also asked about the meaning of isogenic strains. In the same rules, isogenic strains are defined as genetically identical. A pair of strains can share an isogenic

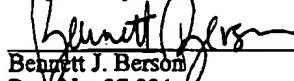
background yet can differ at particular sequences, for example single nucleotide polymorphisms as recited in Claims 6 and 16.

Because the terms used in the claims are well understood by those skilled in the art, and are applicable to any inbred organisms, applicants believe that the full scope of the claims is enabled to a skilled artisan without regard to a particular species or to a particular index phenotype.

The applicants also take this opportunity to request a further personal interview with the Examiner during which at least one of the inventors will be available to discuss the invention with the Examiner.

No fee is believed due in connection with this Supplemental Response. However, should any fee be due, in this or any subsequent response, please consider this to be a request to charge the fee to deposit account number 17-0055. Likewise, no extension of time is believed due. However, should an extension of time be due in this or any subsequent response, please consider this to be a request for the appropriate extension of time and a request to charge the fee due to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,


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